



March 7, 2007.

To : Examiner Maureen M. Wallenhorst  
US Patent & Trademark Office

Re: Application No. 10/675,763  
Art Unit 1743

Dear Examiner Maureen M. Wallenhorst :

We would like to respond to the office action dated 12-12-2006 as follows :

1. We ask that the abstract of the disclosure be amended for compliance on a separated and attached sheet. The added text are underlined and the deleted text are shown in double brackets.
2. We also ask that the claims be amended for compliance on a separated and attached sheet. The added text are underlined and the deleted text are shown in double brackets. Claims 1 and 16 are revised to include antecedent for later claims.
3. In response to rejection of claims 1-15 as being unpatentable in view of prior art of Bruenner et al and Ludeman et al., we wish to use figures to point out the 3 differences between prior art and our method. Claims 1-15 related to a method of synthesis of stable isotope labeled oxime internal standards for use in the analysis of aldehydes and ketones in samples by mass spectrometry (MS). Because the internal standards are labeled oximes, the aldehydes and ketones in samples have to be converted to oximes with the same structure as those of the oxime internal standards before MS analysis.
  - a) Difference No.1 : Prior arts of Bruenner illustrated the use of deuterated oximes as stable isotope labeled internal standards for the MS analysis of hexanal, nonanal, and 4-hydroxy-2-nonenal. The synthesis of each deuterated aldehyde is a multi step synthesis. Hexanal-d4 and nonanal-d4 were prepared by a two step synthesis and 4-hydroxy-2-nonenal-d2 was prepared by an even lengthier synthesis.

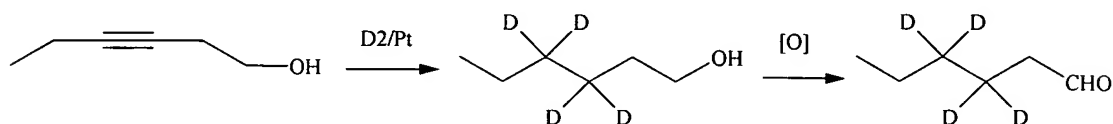


Figure 1 : Synthesis of hexanal-d4